

FROM :

FAX NO. :

Dec. 26 2001 01:03PM P1

Melanie Teague
1102 22nd St. Unit 606
Hickory, NC 28601

Renata Hesse
Trial Attorney
Antitrust Division
Department of Justice
601 D Street NW, Suite 1200
Washington, DC 20530

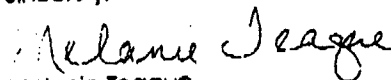
Dear Attorney Hesse:

The proposed settlement in the U.S. v. Microsoft case is clearly a compromise because it does not completely satisfy Microsoft or its competitors. I support the settlement because it attempts to reach a middle ground for both sides and will ultimately benefit consumers, the technology industry and the economy.

End users will be guaranteed flexibility because new Microsoft operating systems will have a mechanism that allows them to remove or re-enable middleware products such as the Internet browser, email utilities and messaging tools. Computer manufacturers will have flexibility because Microsoft will not be allowed to penalize them for distributing software that competes with Microsoft.

The settlement also allows a Technical Committee to respond quickly to complaints about Microsoft's compliance. Microsoft competitors have other benefits as a result of this settlement. It is time to reach an agreement and allow the technology industry to get back to developing new products and encouraging innovation that will stimulate the economy.

Sincerely,


Melanie Teague